
Regional Council Activity Report

January 26, 2005



Executive Director's Report

On January 25th, MAG, in partnership with the Business Coalition, hosted a Regional Forum, "On the Road to Greatness: Facts. Focus. Future." At the event, members of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee appeared in a video prepared by Mesa Channel 11, in which they introduced the sections of a *MAG Regional Report* describing our great region. The event was well attended by approximately 135 local government and business leaders.

The idea for a regional report grew out of the MAG Governance Committee process in 2001-2002. As the idea for the report evolved, it was thought that a regional report should be prepared examining how this region is performing, especially in relation to our peer metropolitan areas. Our region was compared to nine peer U.S. regions in seven major issue areas.

All metropolitan areas have challenges that come with large populations. In preparing this report, we knew that our region grows by more than 100,000 people each year, with almost two-thirds of that growth (66,000) due to net migration. New residents are making both an economic decision and a quality of life decision in coming to this region. We wanted to examine the strengths that attract these new residents, while at the same time look at how challenges to our region could be addressed.

MAG Chair Keno Hawker noted in his welcome address that we have taken a remarkable journey over the last three years. We learned that by working together and harnessing our collective talents, we can accomplish great things for this region. When we unify our vision toward a common regional goal, we can meet with unqualified success. This was especially evident in the passage of Proposition 400.

Forum participants wrapped up the day in breakout sessions, developing "big, hairy, audacious goals" for the region. Ideas included goals for education, employment, the economy, wastewater, crime, housing, and the environment. A complete list of goals can be found at www.mag.maricopa.gov/event.cms?item=4268 under the "Resources" link. Organizations are encouraged to further explore these goals and develop ideas for their implementation.

Through our continued partnerships, we will build on the many remarkable strengths of this region, ensuring that those who continue to move here will find that reality matches both the expectations—and the dreams—that brought them here.

For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.



Action Items

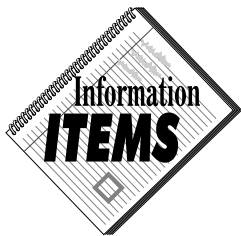
Regional Council Meeting Report for Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Sales Tax Incentives and Revenue Sharing

Due to the introduction of legislative measures designed to preempt municipalities from using development incentives, the MAG Executive Committee has been discussing sales tax incentives and proposed revenue sharing agreements in the Valley. The Executive Committee requested that a model resolution be brought to the Management Committee and Regional Council. The intent of the resolution is to allow municipalities to show a commitment to finding resolutions to sales tax incentive and revenue sharing issues.

The model resolution stresses communication, cooperation and coordination among jurisdictions when addressing regional issues; recognizes the importance of sound land use planning and fiscal policies; encourages adjacent municipalities to work together on issues associated with shared boundaries; encourages discussions at the local level and does not encourage state intervention; and reflects a local effort to consider revenue sharing. The Regional Council moved to accept the resolution as a model that can be altered to fit the unique characteristics of each city or town. The Council urged member agencies to bring it back to their own city councils for continued discussion. The Regional Council also suggested that the MAG Management Committee continue to research best practices on the issues.

For more information, please contact Tom Remes, MAG Senior Policy Planner, (602) 254-6300.



Information Items

2006 Budget Process Outlined

The Maricopa Association of Governments has begun its annual budget process. Each year, the Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for

the upcoming fiscal year is developed in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies in April and approved by the Regional Council in May. To provide an early start to the process, an overview was provided to the Regional Council outlining anticipated dues and assessments. A budget timeline was also presented. Member agencies are encouraged to contact the MAG fiscal services department with any questions or input regarding the FY 2006 budget. **For more information, please contact Becky Kimbrough, MAG Fiscal Services Manager, (602) 254-6300.**

Regional Report Available

The MAG Regional Report, a resource for policymakers in the MAG Region, is now available on the MAG Web site at www.mag.maricopa.gov/event.cms?item=4268, under "Resources." High-quality, bound, color versions of the report are being made available in hard copy for \$12.50 each. A video summarizing highlights of the report is also being made available to member agencies on request.

The Report is intended to be a positive tool for communities to use in attaining their goals, and also to measure the performance of the region as a whole on key indicators. The document uses a variety of statistical data to explore how our region is doing in seven key areas.

For more information on the Regional Report, please contact Kelly Taft, MAG Communications Manager. To purchase a hard copy of the report, please contact Judy Tadlock, Transportation Secretary. Both can be reached at the MAG offices, (602) 254-6300.



Upcoming Events

MAG to Host Booth at Juneteenth Festival

MAG will host an information booth during the Juneteenth Festival on Saturday, February 5th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will be held at Eastlake Park, 16th Street and Jefferson, Phoenix. The festival is sponsored by the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department and is the final of several events to help educate Valley youth and the community about the importance of Black history and how it has contributed to the Phoenix community. The festival raises scholarship money for minority youth. Since 1968, more than 800 children have received scholarships. MAG will provide information about regional transportation issues and MAG's role in the region.

For more information, please contact Carlos Jurado, MAG Community Outreach Specialist, (602) 254-6300.

Next Regional Council Meeting

The next meeting of the MAG Regional Council will be held on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at the MAG offices, 302 N. 1st Avenue, Suite 200, Phoenix. Agenda items will include recommended federally funded projects for the draft FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and transit, freeway and arterial street elements; updating federal functional classification for roadways in the MAG Region; three amendments to the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan; adoption of the Major Revision of the MAG Regional Solid Waste Management Plan; and discussion of the development of the FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. Additional agenda items are pending.

For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.